Application No.10/010,944 In Reply to USPTO Office Correspondence of May 8, 2003 Attorney Docket No. 702-011934 Paper Dated November 10, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 18 and 19 have been cancelled. Claims 12 and 20-22 have been amended. Claims 23 and 24 have been added. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-11 (Previously Cancelled)

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) A tab for a container having a wall with a tear part for opening the container, said tab comprising:

a rigid lever part, which is connectable to the tear part and which defines a plane, wherein the lever part comprises at least two sleeves, in which the ends of a strand are fixedly arranged; and

an a flexible operating part for operating the lever part, which operating part is movably connected to the lever part, such that the operating part can be moved out of the plane of the rigid lever part.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn) The tab according to claim 12, wherein the operating part is hingedly arranged to the lever part.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn) . The tab according to claim 13, wherein the lever part comprises a substantially sleeve-like edge, in which a cylindrical edge of the operating part is hingedly arranged.

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Claim 15 (Withdrawn)

The tab according to claim 13, wherein the lever

part comprises at least one opening, in which the operating part is arranged.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn)

The tab according to claim 13, wherein the

operating part has a tab shape.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn)

The tab according to claim 13, wherein the

operating part comprises a loop.

Claims 18 and 19 (Cancelled)

Claim 20 (Currently Amended)

The tab according to claim 19 12,

wherein the strand comprises a plastic.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended)

The tab according to claim 19 12,

wherein the strand comprises a steel cable.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended)

A container, comprising:

a bottom wall;

a peripheral wall extending from the bottom wall;

an upper closing wall, which comprises a tear part for opening the container;

and

a tab which is connected to the tear part, wherein the tab is comprised of a

rigid lever part, which is connectable to the tear part and which defines a plane, wherein the

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lever part comprises at least two sleeves, in which the ends of a strand are fixedly arranged; and

an <u>a flexible</u> operating part for operating the lever part, which operating part is movably connected to the lever part, such that the operating part can be moved out of the plane of the rigid lever part.

Claim 23 (New) The tab according to claim 12, wherein the flexible operating part comprises a plastic.

Claim 24 (New) The tab according to claim 12, wherein the lever part comprises metal.